WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for treating a staphylococcal infection in a patient, comprising instilling into the nares of the patient, a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising antibodies or fragments thereof that specifically bind to WTA, wherein treatment results in alleviation or blocking of colonization.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises polyclonal antibodies that specifically bind to WTA.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the instillation of at least one anti-staphylococcal drug.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the anti-staphylococcal drug is selected from lysostaphin and nisin.

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10. The method of claim 1, wherein the staphylococcal infection is selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the antibody fragments are chosen from Fab, Fab', $F(ab')_2$, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the staphylococcal infection is a *S. aureus* infection.

13. A method for treating a staphylococcal infection in a patient, comprising instilling in to the nares of the patient, a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising a soluble form of whole WTA or a fragment of WTA, wherein treatment results in alleviation or blocking of colonization.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the instillation of at least one anti-staphylococcal drug.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the anti-staphylococcal drug is selected from lysostaphin and nisin.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the staphylococcal infection is selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

17 The method of claim 13, wherein the staphylococcal infection is a *S. aureus* infection.

18. A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of antibodies or fragments thereof that specifically bind to WTA, wherein said

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antibodies or fragments thereof alleviate or block staphylococcal colonization upon administration to a patient.

19. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises polyclonal antibodies that specifically bind to WTA.

20. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

21. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a multiplicity of MAbs that specifically bind WTA, wherein the MAbs have non-identical amino acid sequences.

22. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a chimeric antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

23. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a humanized antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

24. The composition of claim 18, wherein the composition comprises a human antibody that specifically binds to WTA.

25. The composition of claim 18, wherein the fragment is chosen from Fab, Fab', $F(ab')_2$, Fv, SFv, and scFv.

26. The composition of claim 18, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

27. The composition of claim 18, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in a *S. aureus* infection.

28. A vaccine comprising:

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(a) the composition of claim 18; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

29. The vaccine of claim 28, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

30. The vaccine of claim 28, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in a *S. aureus* infection.

31. A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a soluble form of whole WTA or fragments thereof, wherein said WTA or fragments thereof alleviate or block staphylococcal colonization upon administration to a patient.

32. The composition of claim 31, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

33. The composition of claim 31, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in a *S. aureus* infection.

34. A vaccine comprising:

(a) the composition of claim 31; and

(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

35. The vaccine of claim 34, wherein the colonization results in a staphylococcal infection selected from a localized infection, a systemic infection, and a contamination of a foreign body.

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36. The vaccine of claim 34, wherein the staphylococcal colonization results in a *S. aureus* infection.

37. An isolated constructed *S. aureus* organism deficient in WTA, wherein the tagO gene is inactivated during construction.

38. The isolated *S. aureus* organism of claim 37, wherein the organism is *ΔtagO*.

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